REMARKS

Claims 1 through 83 were pending in the above-identified application when last examined and stand rejected. Claims 46, 61, 73, 74, 80 and 81 are amended herein to correct scrivener's errors, and not to narrow the scope of any of the claims. No new matter has been added and claims 1-83 remain pending in the present application.

Amendments to the Drawings

Attached to this Amendment is a copy of replacement drawings for Figures 1 through 6, and a copy with proposed changes shown in RED ink. The proposed changes are intended to add clarity to the drawings by removing extraneous information that might tend to obscure examples of aspects of the invention illustrated therein or impede correction of informalities. Informalities cited by the Chief Draftsperson have also been corrected, and it is submitted that the requested amendments are consistent with the corresponding material in the specification. No new matter is being added.

Also attached to this Amendment is a Letter To The Chief Draftsperson (REQUEST TO MAKE PROPOSED DRAWING CHANGES) requesting the above noted changes to be made in Figures 1 through 6. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner's approval for such changes to the drawings for Figures 1 through 6.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

In item 3, page 2, of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 46-48, 61-63, 73-75 and 80-82 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner asserts that claims 46, 61, 73 and 80 recite "the pop-up screen", which lacks an antecedent basis (emphasis added). The Examiner further asserts that claims 74 and 81 recite "the causing [a] message window", which lacks an antecedent basis, and further rejects claims 47, 48, 62, 63, 75 and 82 "because they are dependent claims [depending] on claims 46, 61, 73, 74, he and 81" (emphasis added).

Claims 46, 61, 73, 74, 80 and 81 are amended herein, such that the rejections are rendered moot. Specifically, the recitations of "the pop-up screen" in claims 46, 61, 73 and 80 have been repaced with the recitations respectively of "the message window", which have antecedent bases in each of claims 46, 61, 73 and 80. Further, the recitation in claim 74 of "as recited in claim 68" has been replaced with "as recited in claim 73", and the recitation in claim 81 of "as recited in claim 76" has been replaced with "as recited in claim 80" (emphasis added). Claim 73 and claim 80 respectively provide an antecedent basis for the recited "the causing a message window" in claims 74 and 80.

Therefore, for at least the foregoing reasons, it is submitted that claims 46, 61, 73, 74, 80 and 81 are in a condition for allowance and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested. It is further submitted that the rejection of claims 47, 48, 62, 63, 75 and 82 based on rejection of claims 46, 61, 73, 74, 80 and 81 are rendered moot, claims 46, 61, 73, 74, 80 and 81 are in a condition for allowance, and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 46, 61, 73, 74, 80 and 81 is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

In items 4-5, which begin at page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 9-19, 24-45, 49-60, 64-72, 76-79 and 83 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,995,597 to Woltz et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Woltz") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,335, 963 to Bosco (hereinafter referred to as "Bosco"), and further in view of US Patent No. 5,832,502 to Durham et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Durham").

Regarding claims 1-4 and 9-16, the Examiner asserts that Woltz discloses a system and method that comprises "receiving emails from multiple web sites at an e-mail control center; and forwarding one or more of the emails to a user's email account in accordance with instructions provided by the user to the email control center" at 3:18-67, 4:1-44 and 5:45-57.

The Examiner next argues that deficiencies in Woltz are provided by Bosco and Durham, with the remainder of recited elements being conventionally used. According to the Examiner, Woltz "is silent on generating a unique email address when registering

with each of multiple sites" and on "identifying and sorting the emails according to the web sites from which the emails were received". However, Bosco teaches "an electronic mail system" that provides "a user with notification of a received email message without requiring the user to call into their email service provider which issues/generates a unique ID, password, account number, and email address for the user" at 3:33-54, 4:52-67 and 5:1-37. Finally, "Durham teaches a technique for generating a unique record index for sorting e-mail messages in an electronic mail messaging system" at 4:51-67, 5 and 6:1-34.

The Examiner further asserted the same basis for the rejection of claims 17-19, 24-45, 49-60, 64-72, 76-79 and 83, on page 4 of item 5, and of dependent claims 5-8 and 20-23 in item 6, which begins on page 4 (with further reference to Ouchi and Waskiewiez as to further elements).

Applicants respectfully traverse.

First, the Examiner is respectfully reminded that the mere fact that references can be combined or modified is not sufficient to establish prima facie obviousness unless the prior art also suggests the desirability of the combination. See *In Re Mills*, 916 F.2d 680, 16 USPQ2d 1430 (Fed. Cir. 1990), Although a prior art device "may be capable of being modified to run the way the apparatus is claimed, there must be a suggestion or motivation in the reference to do so." 916 F.2d at 682 (emphasis added). Therefore, even assuming arguendo that each of the Examiner's assertions might be correct, a finding of obviousness based on the combination of Woltz's silence with teachings of Bosco and Durham would be improper. See also MPEP 2143.01.

However, we need not even go so far as to the impropriety of combining the references since each of the references, as well as the combination, fails to teach, suggest or otherwise render the recited claims obvious. Claim 1, for example, recites:

1. (Once amended) A method, comprising:

generating a unique email address when registering with each of multiple web sites;

identifying and sorting the emails according to the web sites from which the emails were received; and

forwarding one or more of the emails to a user's email account in accordance with instructions provided by the user to the email control center.

Woltz not only fails to teach or suggest at least "generating a unique email address when registering with each of multiple email sites", as with the embodiment recited by claim 1, but further teaches away from the recited embodiment. Specifically, in teaching "seamlessly integrating pagers and e-mail" (Col. 1, lines 47-53), Woltz instead teaches coordinating multiple email boxes when email messages are received at a "single user e-mail address" (Col. 1, lines 59-63, emphasis added).

Bosco also fails to teach or suggest, and further, teaches away from at least "generating a unique email address when registering with each of multiple email sites". Specifically, Bosco teaches, "When registering originally with an ISP"... [t]he "ISP issues the user a password, account number, and [an] email address" (Col. 3, lines 47-53, emphasis added). It should further be noted that the ISP provides for receiving rather than sending emails to the user (e.g., Col. 1, lines 5-35, Col. 3, lines 5-14, Col. 4, lines 30-53) and already has access to the one user email address that it provided when the user registered with the ISP.

Finally, Durham is completely unconcerned with multiple web sites, occurrences when registering with multiple web sites, or in generating a unique email address when registering with each of multiple web sites. Instead, Durham is concerned with indexing conversations, via email, between conversants (e.g., see Abstract, FIGS. 3A-3D and the complete Detailed Description. While Durham is silent as to the recited multiple email sites to which unique email address might correspond, it can be readily inferred that each of the individuals is presumed by Durham to have a single email address.

Thus, clearly the combination of references also fails to teach, suggest or provide any motivation whatsoever in accordance with establishing prima facie obviousness. Applicants further submit that at least the same arguments apply similarly with regard to the remaining rejected claims.

Accordingly, for at least the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-83 are allowable over the cited references. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-83 and early allowance of claims 1-83 are solicited.

If the Examiner has any questions or needs any additional information, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at (650) 843-8796. If for any reason an insufficient fee has been paid, please charge the insufficiency to Deposit Account No. 05-0150.

Date: 12/16/02

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Respectfully submitted,

Daryl C. Josephson
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 37,365

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on
Date: 12/16/02 By: Daryl C. Josephson

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 46, 61, 73, 74, 80 and 81 are amended herein as follows. Claims 46, 61, 73, 74, 80 and 81 are further marked with a double asterisk (**), and the remaining pending claims are provided in 11 point and italics for the Examiner's convenience.

1. (Once amended) A method, comprising:

generating a unique email address when registering with each of multiple web sites;

receiving emails from the multiple web sites at an email control center;

identifying and sorting the emails according to the web sites from which the emails were received; and

forwarding one or more of the emails to a user's email account in accordance with instructions provided by the user to the email control center.

2. A method, comprising:

generating an email address to correspond with a user and a network site; and

supplying the email address to the network site as a contact email address of the user.

3. The method as recited in claim 2, wherein at least one of the generating and supplying is conducted automatically in response to a request from the network site for the contact email address of the user.

4. The method as recited in claim 2, wherein the generating and supplying are conducted automatically in response to a request from the network site for the contact email address of the user.

5. The method as recited in claim 2, wherein the generating comprises adding one or more alphanumeric characters with a predetermined email address portion.

6. The method as recited in claim 5, wherein the predetermined email address portion is a high level domain name to which the alphanumeric characters form a string concatenated as a prefix to the predetermined email address portion.

7. The method as recited in claim 6, wherein the high level domain name identifies a central network site.

8. The method as recited in claim 6, wherein the string associates the network site and the user.

9. The method as recited in claim 2, further comprising:

receiving at a central site an email from the network site; and

processing the email according to the supplied contact email address of the user.

10. The method as recited in claim 9, wherein the processing includes processing the email according to one or more user preferences.

11. The method as recited in claim 9, wherein the processing comprises sorting the email with other user information or automatically forwarding the email to a further email address of the user.

12. The method as recited in claim 11, wherein the other user information comprises at least one of a second user email, a change notification associated with the user or a status notification associated with the user.

13. The method as recited in claim 2, wherein the generating and supplying is performed by a browser.

14. The method as recited in claim 2, wherein the network and the central site are connected via the Internet.

15. The method as recited in claim 2, wherein the user can suspend use of the supplied contact email address.

16. The method as recited in claim 2, further comprising supplying the unique email address of the user to a further network site as a contact email address.

17. A system, comprising:

generating means for generating an email address to correspond with a user and a network site; and

supplying means coupled to the generating means for supplying the email address to the network site as a contact email address of the user.

18. The system as recited in claim 17, wherein at least one of the generating and supplying is conducted automatically in response to a request from the network site for the contact email address of the user.

19. The system as recited in claim 17, wherein the generating and supplying are conducted automatically in response to a request from the network site for the contact email address of the user.

20. The system as recited in claim 17, wherein the generating comprises adding one or more alphanumeric characters with a predetermined email address portion.

21. The system as recited in claim 20, wherein the predetermined email address portion is a high level domain name to which the alphanumeric characters form a string concatenated as a prefix to the predetermined email address portion.

22. The system as recited in claim 21, wherein the high level domain name identifies a central network site.

23. The system as recited in claim 21, wherein the string associates the network site and the user.

24. The system as recited in claim 17, further comprising:

receiving means coupled to the supplying means for receiving at a central site an email from the network site; and

processing coupled to the supplying means for processing the email according to the supplied contact email address of the user.

25. The system as recited in claim 17, wherein the processing includes processing the email according to one or more user preferences.

26. The system as recited in claim 24, wherein the processing comprises sorting the email with other user information or automatically forwarding the email to a further email address of the user.

27. The system as recited in claim 26, wherein the other user information comprises at least one of a second user email, a change notification associated with the user or a status notification associated with the user.

28. The system as recited in claim 17, wherein the generating and supplying is performed by a browser.

29. The system as recited in claim 17, wherein the network and the central site are connected via the Internet.

30. The system as recited in claim 17, wherein the user can suspend use of the supplied contact email address.

31. The system as recited in claim 17, wherein the supplying means supply the unique email address of the user to a further network site as a contact email address.

32. A computer readable storage medium storing program code for causing a computer to perform the steps of:

generating an email address to correspond with a user and a network site; and

supplying the email address to the network site as a contact email address of the user.

33. A method, comprising:

receiving at a central site a notification from a network site, the notification including an indicator corresponding to a user, the central site and the network site; and

processing the notification in accordance with the indicator.

34. The method as recited in claim 33, wherein the notification is an email and the indicator is an email address of the email.

35. The method as recited in claim 33, wherein the notification comprises status information sent to the central site in response to a user conducting a transaction while visiting the network site.

36. The method as recited in claim 33, wherein the notification comprises status information sent to the central site in response to a detection of a predetermined event status at the network site that corresponds to the user.

37. The method as recited in claim 33, wherein the processing comprises sorting the notification in accordance with the indicator.

38. The method as recited in claim 33, wherein the processing comprises forwarding the notification to a forward email address.

39. The method as recited in claim 33, wherein the processing comprises forwarding information corresponding to the notification to a forward email address.

40. Forwarded information formed according to the method of claim 39.

41. The method as recited in claim 39, wherein the information corresponding to the notification comprises a summary of the notification.

42. The method as recited in claim 39, wherein the information corresponding to the notification comprises a hyperlink to the network site.

43. The method as recited in claim 39, wherein the processing is conducted in accordance with predetermined user parameters.

44. The method as recited in claim 33, wherein the processing comprises forwarding the notification to a forward email address in accordance with at least one of a delivery time

parameter, a delivery date parameter, a frequency parameter, an immediate forward parameter or a number of email messages parameter.

45. The method as recited in claim 33, wherein the processing comprises causing an alert corresponding to the notification to be sent to a user device of the user.

** 46. The method as recited in claim 33, wherein the processing comprises causing a message window to be provided on a user device of the user, the ~~pop-up screen~~ message window including information corresponding to the notification.

47. The method as recited in claim 46, wherein the causing a message window to be provided is conducted in accordance with receipt of a request from the user.

48. The method as recited in claim 46, wherein the message window is a pop-up window.

49. A system, comprising:

receiving means for receiving at a central site a notification from a network site, the notification including an indicator corresponding to a user, the central site and the network site; and

processing means coupled to the receiving means for processing the notification in accordance with the indicator.

50. The system as recited in claim 49, wherein the notification is an email and the indicator is an email address.

51. The system as recited in claim 49, wherein the notification comprises status information sent to the central site in response to a user conducting a transaction while visiting the network site.

52. The system as recited in claim 49, wherein the notification comprises status information sent to the central site in response to a detection of a predetermined event status at the network site that corresponds to the user.

53. The system as recited in claim 49, wherein the processing comprises sorting the notification in accordance with the indicator.

54. The system as recited in claim 49, wherein the processing comprises forwarding the notification to a forward email address.

55. The system as recited in claim 49, wherein the processing comprises forwarding information corresponding to the notification to a forward email address.

56. The system as recited in claim 55, wherein the information corresponding to the notification comprises a summary of the notification.

57. The system as recited in claim 55, wherein the information corresponding to the notification comprises a hyperlink to the network site.

58. The system as recited in claim 49, wherein the processing is conducted in accordance with predetermined user parameters.

59. The system as recited in claim 49, wherein the processing comprises forwarding the notification to a forward email address in accordance with at least one of a delivery time parameter, a delivery date parameter, a frequency parameter, an immediate forward parameter or a number of email messages parameter.

60. The system as recited in claim 49, wherein the processing comprises causing an alert corresponding to the notification to be sent to a user device of the user.

** 61. The system as recited in claim 49, wherein the processing comprises causing a message window to be provided on a user device of the user, the ~~pop-up screen~~ message window including information corresponding to the notification.

62. The system as recited in claim 61, wherein the causing a message window to be provided is conducted in accordance with receipt of a request from the user.

63. The system as recited in claim 61, wherein the message window is a pop-up window.

64. A computer readable storage medium storing program code for causing a computer to perform the steps of:

receiving at a central site a notification from a network site, the notification including an indicator corresponding to a user, the central site and the network site; and

processing the notification in accordance with the indicator.

65. A method, comprising:

associating an email address with a network site and a user;

receiving at least one user parameter for processing notifications that include the email address according to the email address;

receiving a notification including the email address; and

processing the notifications.

66. A system, comprising:

associating means for associating an email address with a network site and a user;

parameter receiving means coupled to the associating means for receiving at least one user parameter for processing notifications that include the email address according to the email address;

notification receiving means coupled to the parameter receiving means for receiving a notification including the email address; and

processing means coupled to the notification receiving means for processing the notifications.

67. A computer readable storage medium storing program code for causing a computer to perform the steps of:

associating an email address with a network site and a user;

receiving at least one user parameter for processing notifications that include the email address according to the email address;

receiving a notification including the email address; and

processing the notifications.

68. A method performed by a processing system, comprising:

detecting one or more online events relating to a user of a plurality of network sites;

accumulating event information corresponding to the online events; and

presenting presentation information to a user corresponding to the event information.

69. A method according to claim 68, wherein the detecting comprises receiving an email change or status notification that includes an email address corresponding to the user and one or more of the network sites.

70. A method according to claim 68, wherein the detecting comprises

monitoring user activity at the one or more network sites; and

responding to a transaction user activity by generating and forwarding for accumulation a corresponding transaction notification.

71. Presentation information formed according to the method of claim 68.

72. The method as recited in claim 68, wherein the presenting comprises causing an alert corresponding to the notification to be sent to a user device of the user.

** 73. The method as recited in claim 68, wherein the presenting comprises causing a message window to be provided on a user device of the user, the ~~pop-up screen~~ message window including information corresponding to the notification.

** 74. The method as recited in claim 73 ~~68~~, wherein the causing a message window to be provided is conducted in accordance with receipt of a request from the user.

75. The method as recited in claim 74, wherein the message window is a pop-up window.

76. A system, comprising:

detecting means for detecting one or more online events relating to a user of a plurality of network sites;

accumulating means coupled to the detecting means for accumulating event information corresponding to the online events; and

presenting means coupled to the accumulating means for presenting presentation information to a user corresponding to the event information.

77. A system according to claim 76, wherein the detecting comprises receiving an email change or status notification that includes an email address corresponding to the user and one or more of the network sites.

78. A system according to claim 76, wherein the detecting comprises:

monitoring user activity at the one or more network sites; and

responding to a transaction user activity by generating and forwarding for accumulation a corresponding transaction notification.

79. The system as recited in claim 76, wherein the presenting comprises causing an alert corresponding to the notification to be sent to a user device of the user.

** 80. The system as recited in claim 76, wherein the presenting comprises causing a message window to be provided on a user device of the user, the ~~pop-up screen~~ message window including information corresponding to the notification.

** 81. The system as recited in claim 80 ~~76~~, wherein the causing a message window to be provided is conducted in accordance with receipt of a request from the user.

82. The system as recited in claim 81, wherein the message window is a pop-up window.

83. A computer readable storage medium storing program code for causing a computer to perform the steps of:

detecting one or more online events relating to a user of a plurality of network sites;

accumulating event information corresponding to the online events; and

presenting presentation information to a user corresponding to the event information.

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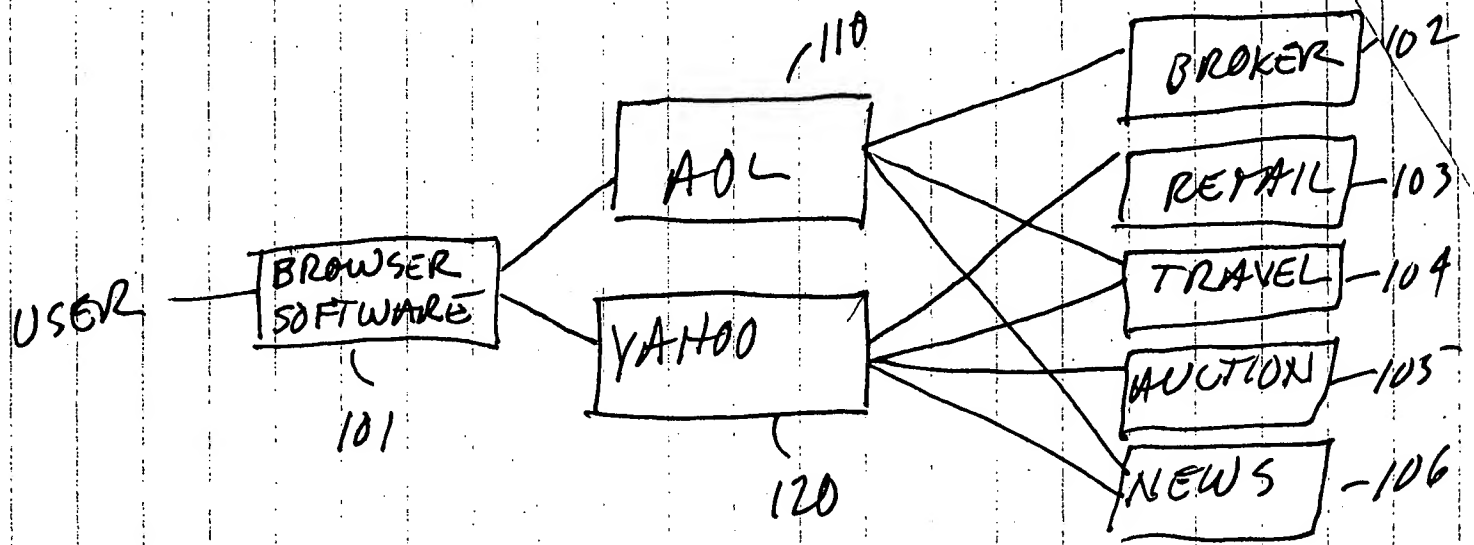

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FIG 1 - PRIOR ART

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FIG. 2

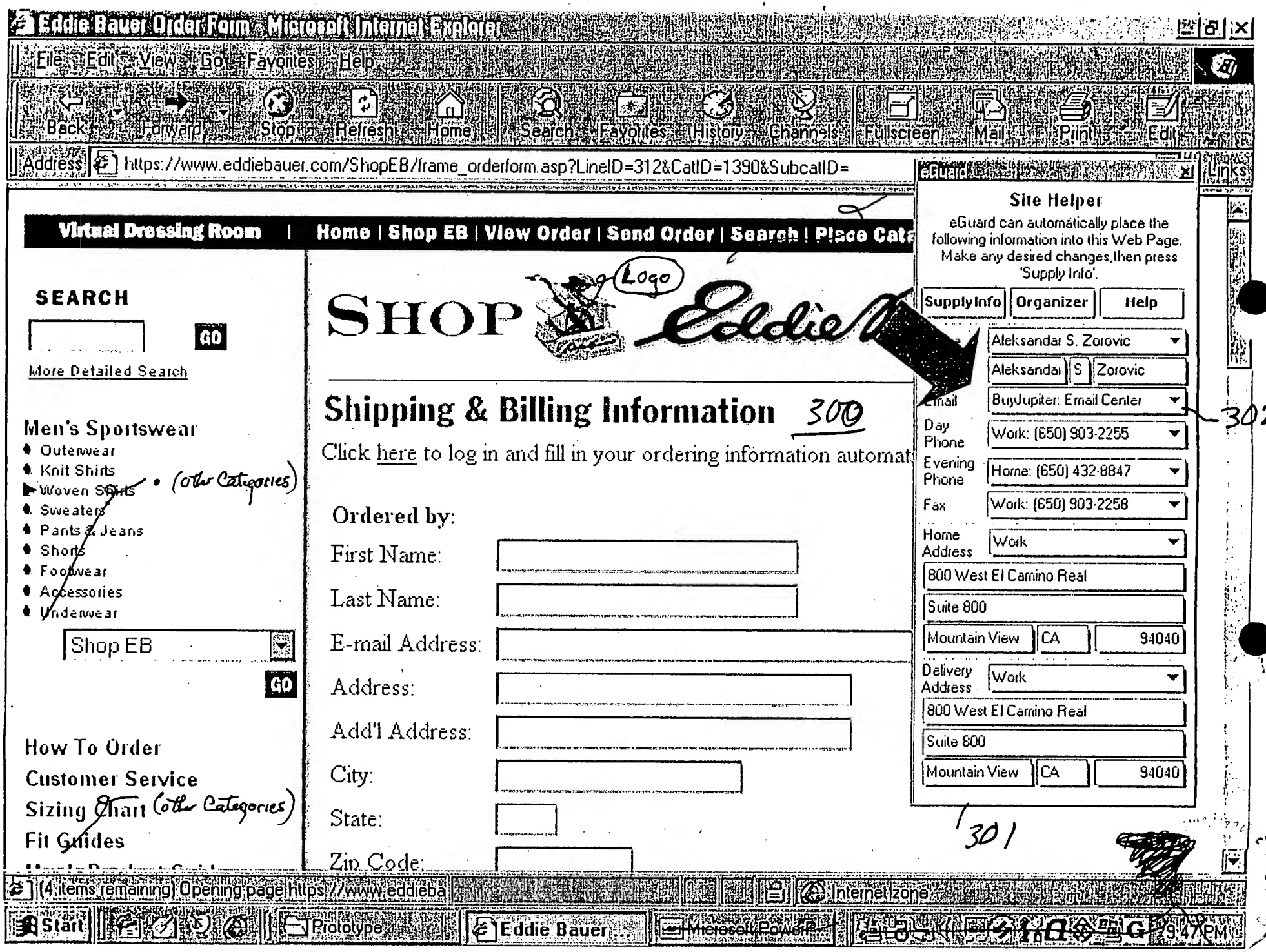
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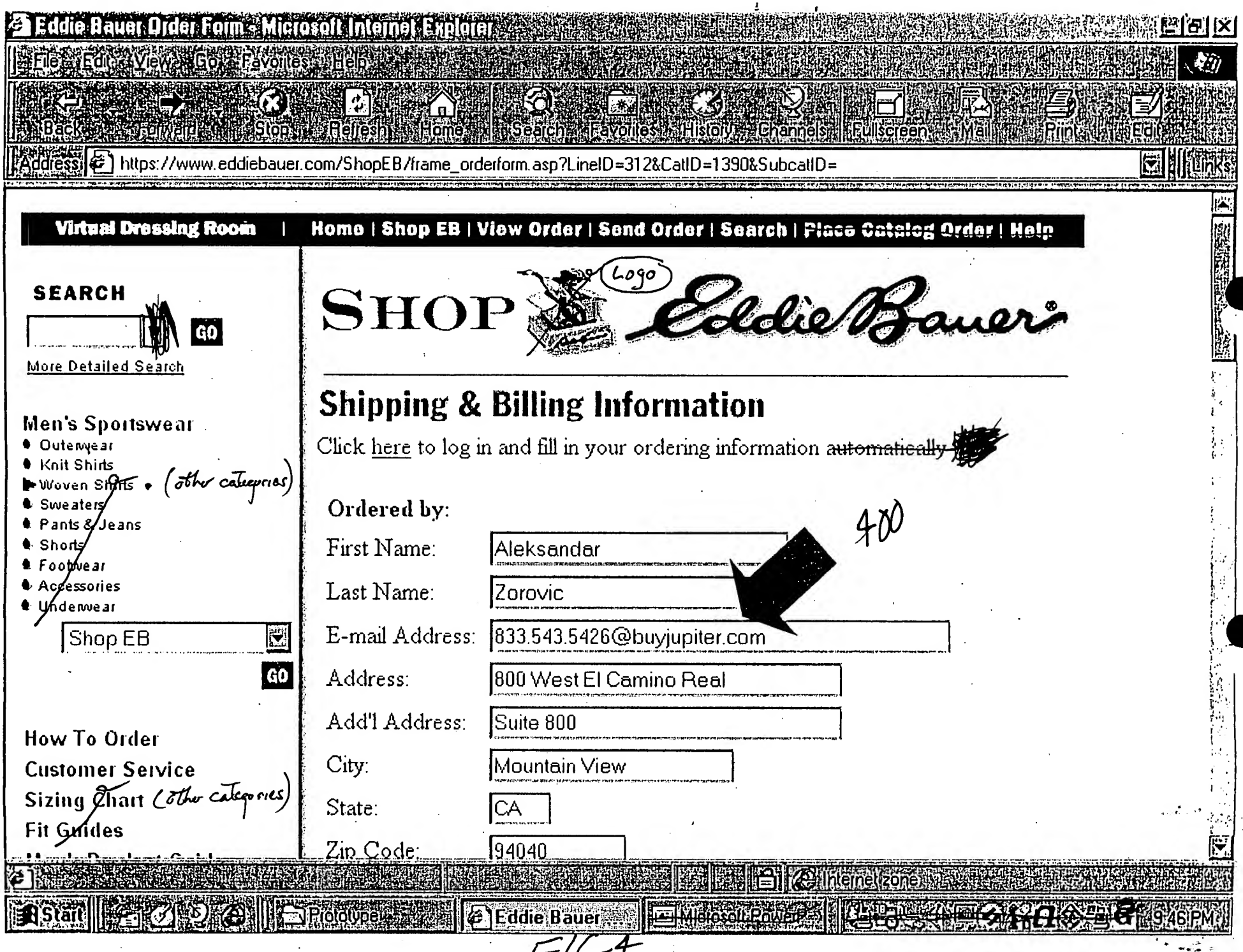
FIG 3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Woven Shirts
Sweaters
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Underwear
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Logo
SHOP Eddie Bauer
Shipping & Billing Information
Click here to log in and fill in your ordering information automatically
Ordered by:
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Last Name: Zorovic
E-mail Address: 833.543.5426@buyjupiter.com
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FIG 4

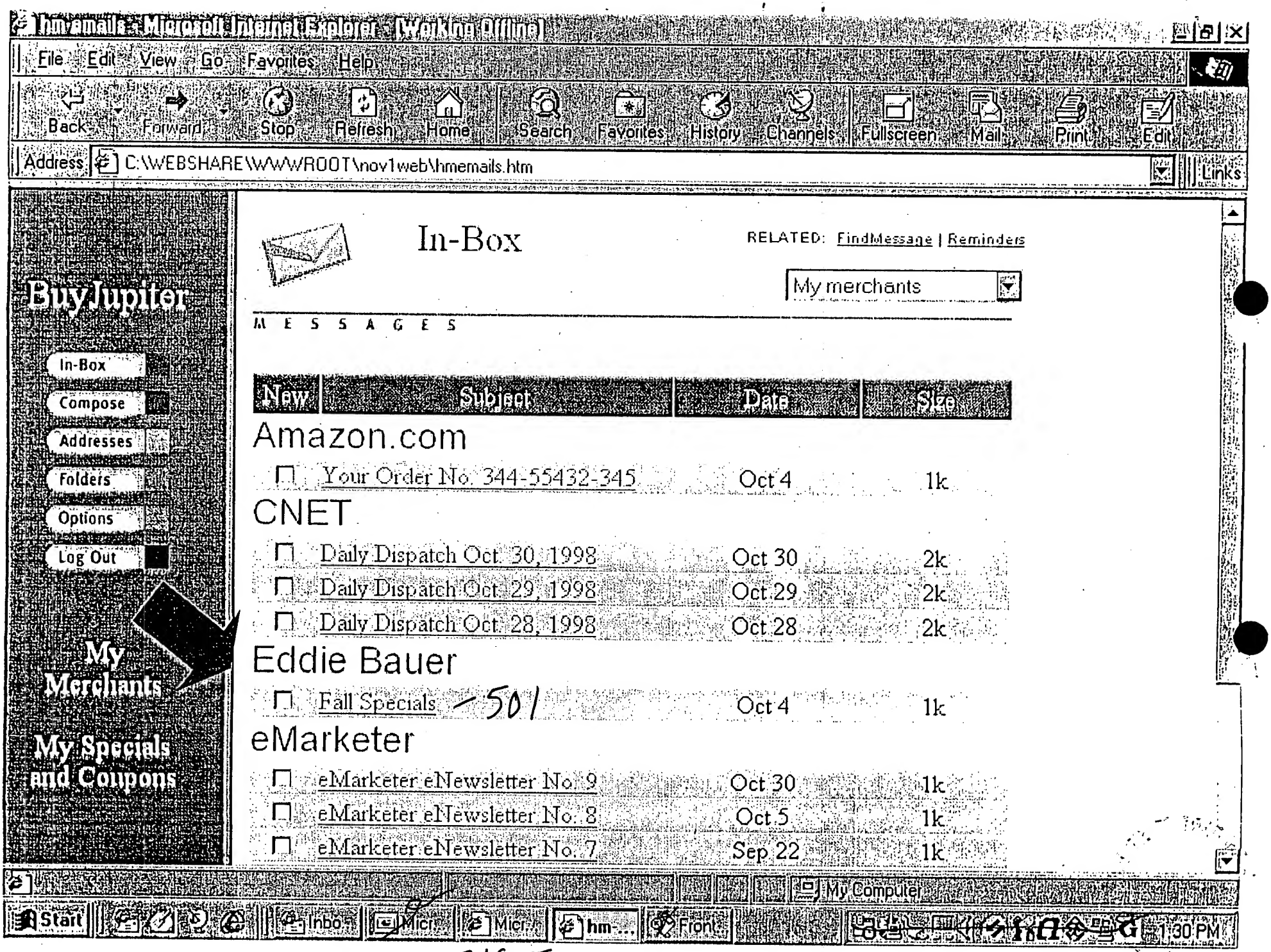
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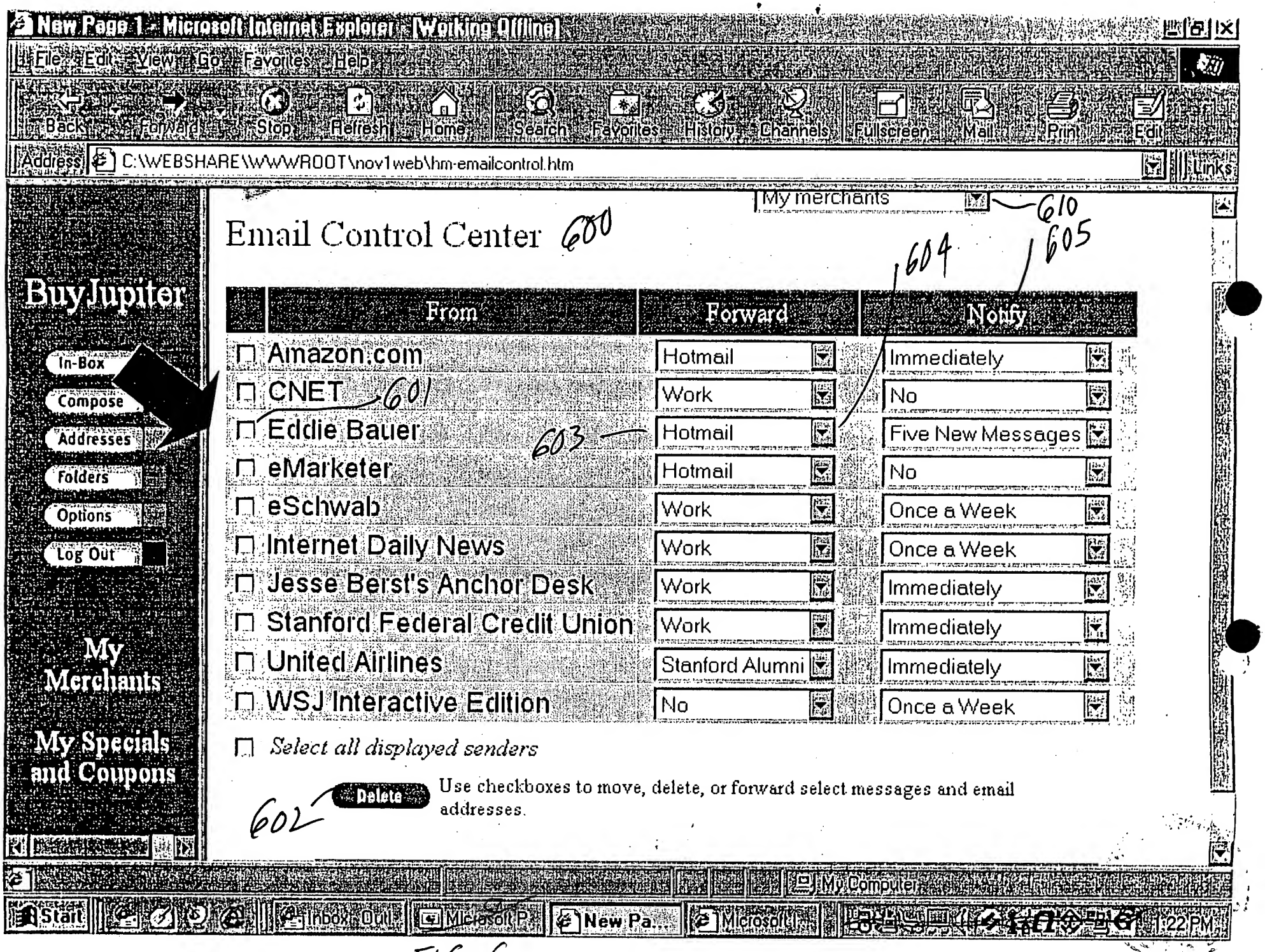
FIG 5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Compose
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FIG 6